OPIOID RESTITUTION FUND

ADVISORY COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

March 27, 2023

3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

I. Welcome and Introductions

ORF Council Chair, Tiffinee Scott, welcomed advisory council members and those viewing the meeting as members of the public.

Members present: Kristin Thomas, Marcus Webster, Emily Keller, Howard Ashkin, Carlos Hardy, Lauren Levy, Meghan Westwood, Tiffinee Scott, Brian Edmunds (for AG Anthony Brown)

Members not in attendance: Tricia Roddy, Dr. David Myles, Delegate Samuel Rosenberg, Marian Bland

II. Motion to Approve February Meeting Minutes

ORF council approves minutes

III. Debrief

Presented by Tiffinee Scott, Council Chair

Priorities from Inter-Agency Opioid Coordination results ranked 1-8 based on community participation. Council thanked those who participated in the poll.

1. Support Recovery Communities
2. Expand Access to Evidence-Based Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder
3. Promote Comprehensive Care Coordination
4. Expand Harm Reduction Services
5. Expand Maryland's Crisis Response System
6. Improve Statewide Infrastructure for Opioid Initiatives
7. Increase Awareness of Substance Use Disorder
8. Promote Youth Resiliency

Listening Session
Recording can be found on the OOCC website.
The council's summary of feedback includes:

1. Process
2. Priorities
3. Subcommittees
4. Funding Allocations
5. Chat Box
6. Timeline

IV. ORF Grant Timeline & Recommendations

Presented by Emily Keller, OOCC Special Secretary of Opioid Response

- From the debrief, poll, and community input from written and verbal the council will come up with recommendations that align with 2022 HB794 on or before November 1 each year, per the legislation.

Grant Process & Proposed Timeline for the OOCC to Distribute Funding

- If the Advisory Council could provide guidance for funding in May of this year below are the steps that could come after to provide funding.
- Targeted Abatement Notice Released on June 1st 2023
- Application Period June 1st - July 14th 2023
- OOCC Review Period July 14th - August 25th 2023
- The OOCC would review projects to ensure they fall within requirements of the legislation. Given the larger budgets and amounts of awards (58), this period is extended to 30 working days.
- The OOCC would issue award letters and grant agreements August 25th - September 1st 2023.
- This totals a timeline of 66 working days from announcement to project commencement. If the advisory council can provide recommendations in the next two months we can begin distributing funds in September.

Overview from 2021 Statewide Spending by Priority Area

- In 2021, $904,826,213 was the total amount spent on resources for substance use disorder.
    - About 54% was federal and 40% was state funded
- Largest line item to Expand Access to Evidence-Based Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder $774,818,319
- About $226,000,000 of medicaid reimbursement for community based service for substance use disorder
- Second largest line item to Improve Statewide Infrastructure for Opioid Initiatives - $110,002,484
    - About $78,000,000 to support state police, on investigations, ems services to responding to overdoses.

- Opioid Related Funding - Top 3 priorities by public poll
    1. Treatment - 86% Funding
    2. Recovery Resources - 1% Funding
    3. Care Coordination - 0.2% Funding

ORF Funding Streams (Jensen Settlement) Recap Year 1&2

- 15% to State Allocation for distribution by the State (15% of all annual payments)
    - $11,258,774.86 in year 1 & 2
- 15% State Discretionary Abatement Fund for distribution via a competitive grant program
    - $11,258,774.81 per year 1 & 2 payment schedule
- 45% Targeted Abatement Grants for distribution to local abatement funds
    - Represented by the $24,372,211.51 ($10,208,058.98 & $14,164,152.53) in the year 1+2 payment schedule
- 25% Local Allocation to Subdivision Called “Base” funding in the State Subdivision Agreement - allocated to subdivisions based on the Subdivision Allocation Percentage. These will not touch the ORF. $13,540,117.51
- Total Allocated to ORF Years 1&2 $46,889,761.23
- Total Year 1&2 Payments $60,429,878.75
- Anticipating to receive Y3 payments 18,900,000 by the end of the year.

V. Discussion

Presented by Tiffinee Scott, Council Chair

Public Feedback

- Council members requested that members of the public are able to view the slides that were presented online.
- Kelsey Reiss requested to have the defining categories of priorities available online. This can be found on the OOCC website.
- Questions on the 25% Local Allocation to Subdivision receiving direct payments, should refer to appendix E to look over the uses of funding. Brian Edmunds said to refer to Section 7331F as being a result of state and subdivisions. Find copies of agreements at: https://nationalopioidsettlement.com/
- Howard Ashkin questioned if subdivisions who receive direct payment are precluded from submitting grant applications among the 8 priorities we approved? Brian Edmunds needs to clarify.
- Kristin Thomas asked if subcommittees will meet privately but decision making will take place at public meetings. Tiffinee - Yes, that is what will happen.
- Harriet requested a link of the Hogan Administration priorities.
- Lauren Levy recommended during listening sessions going to specific jurisdictions and having the Special Secretary present percentages and number of investments. Asked if this is something that we are doing as a

council or in subcommittees? Do we have oversight and accountability? Tiffinee confirmed the oversight and accountability was written in by legislation. Council has the right to make recommendations to allocations in the main meeting and the council can take votes.

- ○ Next Listening Session is not scheduled yet.

Motion to Approve, Oppose or Amend The 8 Priorities

- ○ Emily Keller recommended using all 8 priority areas for this first NOFA in order to keep this moving and to get the funding out.
- ○ Lauren Levy - “second”
- ○ Council was all in favor and approved all 8 priorities from the Inter-Agency Opioid Coordination Plan.

Motion to Approve, Oppose or Amend The Timeline

- ○ Emily Keller - Motion
- ○ Lauren Levy - Second

Motion to Move The Next Listening Session currently scheduled on May 10th, 2023

- ○ Howard Ashkin - Motion
- ○ Kristin Thomas - Second

Motion to Adjourn

- ○ Next meeting April 24, 2023 at 3pm